

FTA NEWS

FOOD, TOBACCO, AGRICULTURAL AND ALLIED WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA—CIO

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URGE LOCALS SUPPORT WALLACE

Following is the unanimous resolution passed by the FTA-CIO International Executive Board urging locals to support Henry Wallace for President and to take part in building a new people's party in 1948:

Henry Wallace's decision to run as an independent candidate for President offers the American people a real voice in choosing the kind of domestic and foreign policy they shall live under.

As candidates for President, Harry S. Truman and the various Republican hopefuls offer the people no real choice for 1948. Both follow the same warlike foreign policy and the same reactionary domestic plan. The Truman Doctrine, the Marshall Plan and the whole of the so-called bi-partisan foreign policy add up to the same thing—intervention and the danger of a new World War abroad and depression at home.

The easy passage of the Taft-Hartley act with less than a majority of the Democrats in the Senate supporting Truman's token veto, the silence of the White House as Congress moves to wreck the Wage Hour act and the utter failure of both to lower the cost of living show that workers have nothing to gain from support of the Presidential candidates of either of the two old parties.

Neither the White House nor the Republican leadership in Congress offers the slightest hope of controlling big business and the monopoly trusts now leading the country to an economic crash. President Truman has brought the agents of Wall Street into his Cabinet, where they hold the biggest and most responsible positions in domestic and foreign affairs.

The Republican leaders in Congress, headed by Senator Taft, are part of the same ruthless group of exploiters. The employers we meet daily in our union negotiations and grievances are entrenched in Washington, where they control our daily lives.

Two and a half years after the military defeat of Germany and Japan we find fascist forces being revived abroad and becoming stronger than ever here at home. In place of peace we find the "cold war" and in place of cooperation with the United Nations, we are offered universal military training for our youth here in the U.S.A.

Our civil liberties as workers and citizens are trampled upon while the lynchers and the Ku Kluxers go unpunished by the authorities sworn to protect us.

Our veterans and their families are without homes while housing is forgotten in Washington and rent control is allowed to go the way of OPA.

The cost of living climbs daily while profiteers and speculators, some in the very White House itself coin profits.

Our demands for wage increases to meet the cost of living draw only official statements urging a freeze in wages as response, while nothing is done to curb the excess profits of the trusts.

All of these wrongs spring from the evil coalition that now runs the Congress and the government in Washington and in the states.

The time has come for the American people to rise up and sweep aside the men who would force us into another war and into another era of suffering.

Henry Wallace's call for a new people's party echoes what the workers and common people have been saying since Franklin D. Roosevelt died. Wallace's pledge to run as an independent candidate for President gives the new party the national leadership that hitherto has been lacking.

Our members, together with their fellow workers and other progressives, have already shown that a new people's party can be built, by their record of political action in Chicago and California, where the foundations of such a party have been built, and in other places where they have challenged the reactionary political machines.

We pledge ourselves to work with our fellow workers, our friends among the farmers, white collar workers, small businessmen and all men and women of good will for the creation of a new independent people's party that will lead the way to victory in 1948 and beyond.

The International Executive Board of FTA-CIO endorses the candidacy of Henry Wallace and the creation of an independent political party to elect Wallace and other progressive candidates to public office.

We recommend that all local unions affiliated to FTA-CIO support Henry Wallace and urge their mem-

(Continued on Page 6)

Endorsement of Henry A. Wallace and a recommendation that all FTA locals work for his election and for the creation of a new people's party marked the semi-annual meeting of the International Executive Board, held in Philadelphia January 9-11.

"The Board endorses the candidacy of Henry Wallace and the creation of an independent political party to elect Wallace and other progressive candidates," the unanimously adopted resolution said.

"We recommend that all local unions affiliated to FTA support Henry Wallace and urge their members to join with other labor and progressive groups in their communities and states in working for his election and building an independent political party."

The Board reaffirmed previous FTA policy of by-passing the anti-union National Labor Relations Board, pointing out that unions which have gone to the Board have got nothing for their members by doing so and in many cases have been worse treated than if they had stayed away.

"The fact that some unions have complied with the dictatorial rulings of the NLRB has not saved them or their members from attack," the Board said. "The plain truth is that the Taft-Hartley act can be made to work only by killing off all genuine labor unions and putting company unions in their place."

The Board urged locals to go after "substantial wage increases," pointing out increases won since 1940 had been more than wiped out by price increases and that the food, tobacco and fiber processing industries "are higher than ever in history and higher than profits in all manufacturing."

"The main danger to our country is the inner depression which is already in effect through the cut in the workers' living standards," it said. "The workers must help correct this dangerous unbalance by securing a substantial increase in wages."

Calling for the adoption of the Wallace program of aid to Europe through the United Nations, the Board criticized the so-called Marshall plan as "an attempt to create a European sweatshop which will be used to drive down wages and living standards here at home."

In addition, the Board proposed united labor support of the wage-hour act; demanded a renewal of price control and a price rollback to May, 1946 levels; pledged continued support to farmers' cooperatives; protested the death penalty against Greek strikers; asked an end to U.S. support of Franco Spain and condemned all attempts to split the World Federation of Trade Unions.

On this point, the resolution said: "Reactionary groups, including some within the World Federation and the CIO have tried to split the WFTU and thus weaken the fight for higher living standards throughout the world."

"We condemn all such attempts, no matter where they come from, and we reaffirm our belief in world labor unity through the WFTU."

MAIN FTA BOARD ACTIONS

Meeting in its regular semi-annual session, the International Executive Board of FTA-CIO this week adopted resolutions urging FTA local support for Henry Wallace and the formation of a new political party, took action on relief to Europe and Asia, reaffirmed previous policy on the Taft-Hartley act and outlined policy calling for "substantial" wage increases for FTA members.

Below is the list of major FTA Board actions:

- | | |
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DOES IT PAY?

Does it pay to be a mouse? Is it worth while to act like a rabbit?

Ask the union leaders who have knuckled under to the Taft-Hartley act and the new National Labor Relations Board with its rules and regulations. Or, if they won't give you an answer, look at the record. Here it is, showing what has happened to unions that have complied.

In the six months that have passed since the Taft-Hartley act became law, compliance with its rules has not helped to protect union members from employer intimidation, from loss of bargaining rights, or from raids by company unions.

For example, in the month of November, 1947, CIO unions complying with the Taft-Hartley act engaged in 17 collective bargaining elections. They lost 11 and won only six, or less than one third.

Three AFL unions that have knuckled under to the NLRB are now faced with employer lawsuits totalling \$300,000.

Two AFL unions, the Carpenters and the Longshoremen, are facing NLRB injunctions for strikes called to protect union security and working conditions.

The Intl. Association of Machinists (unaffiliated) was the first big union to comply with NLRB and Taft-Hartley rules. Last month its members were locked out of a Rochester, N. Y. plant because the boss said the union was full of Communists and the NLRB has done nothing about the lockout.

Another big AFL union, the Electrical Workers Brotherhood, also one of the first to comply, has just lost a big plant in New Bedford, Mass., by a decertification vote.

The CIO Newspaper Guild was one of the first CIO unions to comply. Recently a number of its members were arbitrarily fired by the Brooklyn, N. Y. Eagle. Nothing has been done by the NLRB to get them back on the job.

Compliance with NLRB rules is no protection from company unions. By November, 1947, 70 AFL and 14 CIO unions have complied and been permitted to operate under NLRB rules. At the same time, 683 "independent" locals and 30 so-called independent internationals have complied and been certified. Many of these so-called independents are company unions in direct competition with AFL and CIO unions, including those that have complied with Taft-Hartley rules.

No, being a mouse does not pay. Being a man does. Union leaders who rushed to swear all the "purity oaths" in the Taft-Hartley act book should try it sometime.

LEFT OF RIGHT

The other day a leader of the landlords' lobby called Senator Taft a "red" because his name is on a very mild and inadequate housing bill. Senator Taft, of course, is not a red and had little difficulty in proving it. He wasn't even called before the House unAmerican Committee.

Now comes the campaign to build a people's party and elect Henry Wallace plus some progressive Congressmen, and several million Americans are going to be called by this bad name day in and day out, on the radio, in the newspapers, even in union meetings and the CIO.

Things have come to such a pass in the United States today that you can be called bad names for being against conscription, against the atomic bomb, against the high cost of living, for higher wages and even houses for people to live in.

In fact, you can be (and are) called a red for being to the left of Herbert Hoover.

What we have to remember is this: the issue is not "red" or non-red. The issue is peace, security, abundance against war, depression, misery. Remember that and all the bad names in the book can't hurt us.

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A REAL PLAN FOR EUROPE

The Marshall plan is not a proposal to help feed Europe but "will be used to create a European sweatshop which will be used to drive down wages here at home," the FTA Intl. Executive Board said in its resolution on aid to hungry people abroad.

FTA has always been for feeding victims of German and Japanese fascism, the Board added, and for that reason opposes the Marshall plan and backs the Wallace plan, which would really do what Marshall promises.

Text of the resolution follows:

The members of FTA-CIO have long favored sending U.S. food and other help to the hungry peoples of Europe and Asia who were the victims of fascist aggression in World War II.

Our union supported the resolution on foreign policy adopted at the 1947 convention of the CIO, which called for help to foreign countries without any interference "with free but needy people in the exercise of their rights to independence or self-government."

Almost two years ago FTA proposed a plan for increasing the production of food and for sending it to hungry people.

More than a year after the FTA-CIO food plan was offered to the Government, the so-called Marshall Plan was launched in a speech by Secretary of State George C. Marshall.

We endorse the plan now set forth by Henry Wallace which would really accomplish what the Marshall Plan pretends to do.

The Marshall Plan, after more than six months, is not even yet on paper. Not one pound of food has been sent to the victims of fascism under its provisions. In fact, the feeding of the victims of World War II is not the purpose of the plan or of its backers.

The so-called Marshall Plan cannot and will not help our hungry brothers in war devastated countries. On the contrary, the Marshall Plan, originated and backed by the most reactionary big business forces in the United States, will be used in an attempt to drive down wages and living standards abroad and to create a European sweatshop which will be used to drive down wages here at home.

The French and Italian workers have already felt the anti-union force of the Marshall Plan when they were met with police and U.S. armed troops in their strikes of last November and December for a minimum living wage.

Parallel with the Marshall Plan is the so-called Truman Doctrine, allegedly aimed at suppressing Communism in foreign countries. The workers of Greece, where striking is now punished by death, have met the Truman Doctrine in its most naked form. The suppression of workers' organizations in Brazil, Cuba, Chile and other Latin American countries is further proof that the Truman Doctrine is actually aimed at destroying labor unions in every country where U.S. big business has investments or the State Department has influence.

Further proof of this is found in the fact that the two key departments in the U.S. Government—the Department of State and the Department of Commerce—are riddled with the agents and directors of Wall Street and the big monopoly trusts of the U.S.

These men represent the same employers that forced through the Taft-Hartley act, that destroyed price control and are now plotting to destroy the Wage-Hour Act. Such men cannot be trusted with the relief of our fellow workers abroad any more

than they can be trusted with the welfare of our own people here at home.

In order to help our brothers and sisters abroad and to help in building a peaceful world, we propose the following program and express our support for the plan of peace and cooperation proposed by Henry Wallace:

1. Establishment of a United Nations reconstruction fund to be administered by a United Nations agency and to be devoted to helping the victims of German and Japanese aggression.
2. Money for the United Nations reconstruction fund to be appropriated by the U.S. Congress and by other nations on the basis of national income. Enough money should be provided to finance at least a five-year reconstruction plan.
3. No part of the reconstruction fund to be used for military purposes.
4. International four power control of the industrial Ruhr Valley of Germany to guarantee against another rebirth of German military strength as the basis for aggression.
5. Return to price control and rationing in the U. S. where necessary to make it possible for other nations to buy adequate supplies from this country.
6. Removal of the agents of Wall Street from all policy making agencies in the Government of the U.S. as a necessary step in returning to the principles of unity and cooperation among nations laid down by Franklin D. Roosevelt.
7. Representation for the World Federation of Trade Unions, as the largest, democratic organization of the world's peoples, in the United Nations and particularly in the administration of the reconstruction fund.

In The Locals

29 Tightens Ranks

Members of FTA Local 29, workers at the Columbia Conserve Co. of Indianapolis, Ind., decided that the fight against labor baiting, high living costs and the Taft-Hartley Act needs unions strong and able to stand on their own feet.

One of the most important signs of union strength is financial stability—and that was the problem Local 29 tackled. They had a good time too. They arranged a party for their members and friends and kids. A group of FTA'ers from Local 29 of Blue River Farms in Shelbyville came over for the fun, too.

Highlights of the party were a turkey and cash door prize. There were dancing and singing contests for men and women and a singing contest for children. Entertainment was provided by the singing Carson sisters, whose mother and father are both members of Local 29, and by Brothers Clark and Smith, member of the local, both former actors, who did several acts from their routine.

The party committee was headed by Local 29's Executive Board, which did a bang-up job, as did all members of the local who contributed to the success of the party.

Quaker Oats Workers Win Security, Raise

New contracts signed this month at three FTA Quaker Oats plants brought wage increases and union security to more than 1,300 workers in Akron, Ohio, St. Joseph, Mo., and Memphis, Tenn.

At Akron and St. Joseph, Locals 120 and 125 won a seven cent across the board increase retroactive to December 1, 1947, with a clause providing wage re-opening after March 1, 1948. If the parties fail to agree on wages within 60 days after notice, the union has the right to terminate the contract.

No strike clauses relieve the union of liability under the Taft-Hartley law in case

of unauthorized strikes. Checkoff is voluntary and irrevocable for the life of the contract.

The contract between Local 19 and the Memphis plant, signed earlier, brings working conditions up to the other Quaker Oats contracts for the first time, and provides a nickel increase and an additional paid holiday. It runs for six months, expiring in July, 1948.

Two other Quaker Oats contracts come up for renegotiation in March of this year at Depew, N.Y. and Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Quaker Oats contracts all provide six paid holidays, time and a half pay for Saturdays and double-time for

Sundays, and a guaranteed work plan which provides the workers an income in the event of layoffs.

Congratulating the leaders and members of the three locals, the Quaker Oats Joint Council and the negotiating committees, FTA Regional Director Armando Valdes pointed out that three weeks before the contracts were ratified, 99 percent of the workers had signed check-off authorization.

"We owe this victory to the entire membership of Quaker Oats locals who at all times proved to the Company that they had complete faith in their leaders and in FTA," Valdes declared.

Local 10 Wins Jobs

By Cornelius A. Simmons

"Happy days are here again" say the workers at Person-Garrett Tobacco Co., the toughest plant in the Greenville Division of Local 10.

After being free to do their Christmas shopping for a week, several workers who had been fired were reinstated with full

pay for time lost December 19.

The company laid these good union members off even though they had years of service with the company, and kept workers with no seniority on the job. But, Friday, December 19 was a happy day when the union forced Person-Garrett to reinstate the members with full pay.

Now we see with a strong union how happy a worker can be.

FTA Dairy Wages Tops

Highest dairy wages in the region is the record of Local 236, Whitewater, Wis. President George West announced a 10c an hour increase at the Hawthorne-Melody dairy which brings the minimum up to \$1.12½ an hour.

This is the same local that last month forced their Taft-Hartley boss to reinstate a fellow worker who was fired.

At Dollar Bay Co-op, Local 280 won a three cent increase and a Christmas bonus.

50% WON IN '47

Reviewing the record of the past year since their first contract, the Pioneer Flour Mill unit of Local 172 in San Antonio, Texas, reports some 50 percent in wage increases.

"The members are solid, and they're making their own union shop," Regional Director Harry Koger reports.

195 Wins 2nd Raise

For the second time this year Local 195 negotiated a wage increase for workers at the Hopkinston, Ky., Milling Company. The increase, 5 cents an hour retroactive to October 17, 1947, brings the total increase per hour to 13 cents. The last increase was secured April 18, 1947.

Political Unity In Florida

The Florida United Labor Political Committee has mapped out plans for full and united action by organized labor in the 1948 general election campaign.

It was Florida's notorious labor-hating Attorney-General Tom Watson that served as cat's paw for big business in getting the closed shop outlawed in many states by Congress. Florida was first.

Now Florida is first again, but this time in the right direction. The new United Labor Political Committee is made up of representatives of the Florida Federation of Labor (AFL), Florida Industrial Union Council (CIO), Big Four Railroad Brotherhoods, International Association of Machinists, Southern Federation of Telephone Workers, and the Florida Independent Telephone Workers Union.

SIGN TWO MORE IN LEXINGTON

Following close on the heels of the first FTA contract in Lexington, Ky., Local 66 signed two more contracts recently at the R. J. Reynolds and the Brown and Williamson tobacco plants. The score is now three down and three to go.

Workers at both plants got a 10c an hour increase, paid vacations, grievance procedure and checkoff of dues.

At Reynold's, seasonal workers who work 90% of the season will get three days' bonus pay. Paid vacations are two weeks for five years and one week for more than one year.

Seasonal workers at Brown and

Williamson will get preference for year round jobs, and a seasonal bonus based on the percentage of the season worked.

Members of Local 66 celebrated their success at a Christmas party on December 21 where news of the victory was announced.

At the Vantage tobacco plant where the AFL tobacco workers won an election last year, women workers are still stripping tobacco at 50c an hour. FTA's three new contracts at American Suppliers, R. J. Reynolds and Brown and Williamson, have a minimum hourly rate of 67½c an hour, paid vacations, holidays and bonuses.

Quote Of The Week

"When we think of peace these days, we also think of one man who is battling for that peace—the kind of peace Franklin Roosevelt fought for, with equality and cooperation of all nations and the Four Freedoms.

"That man is Henry Wallace. When we think of goodwill to men we think of one man who is battling for that goodwill. Battling for Roosevelt's program of security, equality, jobs, housing and prosperity for the common man.

"That man again is Henry Wallace."

The Voice, Local 194.



FTA Local 29's Salt River Valley packaged workers are still on strike in the area around Phoenix, Arizona, where the grower-shippers are trying to use the Taft-Hartley act as a club to break the union. As this picture of the strike kitchen in the Alhambra district shows, they need relief. Funds should be rushed to FTA Local 78, SRV Division, 2108 Buckeye Rd., Phoenix, Ariz.

(See story page 5)

Here's the committee that did the work for FTA Local 29's fund raising party out at Columbia Conserve, Indianapolis. (See story above). Front row, from left: Vice-President C. Smith; Recording Secretary E. Boddell; Financial Secretary A. Coleman; Trustees V. Pepper. Second row: F. Brown; C. Lockwood; Trustee C. Garrett; A. Flowers and A. Meyers. Standing: E. Boddell; FTA Organizer Emil Dean; E. Clark.

WALLACE TO RUN FOR PEACE, SECURITY; SAYS TIME HAS COME FOR NEW PARTY

For the past fifteen months I have traveled up and down, and back and forth across this country. I have talked with half a million people in public meetings and with thousands in private gatherings.

I have been working for, and I shall continue to work for, peace and security in America, grounded on a foundation of world peace and security.

Everywhere in the United States today, among farmers, workers, small business men and professional men and women, I find confusion, uncertainty and fear. The people do not ask, "Will there be another war?"—but "When will the war come?"

Everywhere I find that people are spending so much for food and rent that they cannot afford their customary services from the doctor and dentist. They do not ask, "Will there be another depression?" but "When will the depression start?"

Wall Street Rule

Peace and abundance mean so much to me that I have said at a dozen press conferences and in many speeches when asked about a third party,

"If the Democratic party continues to be a party of war and depression, I will see to it that the people have a chance to vote for peace and prosperity."

To those who have come to me asking the conditions of my adherence to the present Democratic Administration, I have said, "Let the Administration repudiate universal military training and rid itself of the Wall Street-military team that is leading us toward war."

I have insisted that the Democratic Administration curb the ever-growing power and profits of monopoly and take concrete steps to preserve the living standards of the American people. I have demanded that the Democratic Administration cease its attacks on the civil liberties of Americans.

In speeches in the North and in the South at non-segregated meetings I have stated the simple truth that segregation and discrimination of any kind or character have no place in America.

My terms to the Democratic high command have been well known.

By their actions and finally by their words, they have said:

"Henry Wallace, we welcome your support but we will not change our policies."

The Right to Choose

In answering me, the Democratic leadership also gave its answer to millions of Americans who demand the right to vote for peace and prosperity.

Thus, the leadership of the Democratic party would deprive the American people of their rightful opportunity to choose between progress and reaction in 1948.

So far as the Republican party is concerned, there is no hope—as George Norris, Fiorello LaGuardia and Wendell Willkie long ago found out.

When the old parties rot, the people have a right to be heard through a new party.

They asserted that right when the

Declaring that "the time has come for a new party to fight the war makers," Henry Wallace announced his intention to run "as an independent candidate for President of the United States in 1948."

Wallace based his appeal for a new party and his pledge to run for President on the charge that "there is no real fight between a Truman and a Republican." Both stand for a foreign policy leading to world war and a domestic policy leading to higher and still higher prices, the shackling of labor unions and the trampling of civil rights of the Negro people at home.

"We face the future unfettered by any principle but the general welfare," Wallace said. "By God's grace, the people's peace will usher in the century of the common man."

Text of Henry Wallace's speech is given on this page.

Democratic party was founded under Jefferson in the struggle against the Federalist party of war and privilege of his day. They won it again when the Republican party was organized in Lincoln's time.

The people must again have an opportunity to speak out with their votes in 1948.

Vote for Peace

The lukewarm liberals sitting on two chairs say, "Why throw away your vote?" I say a vote for a new party in 1948 will be the most valuable vote you ever have cast or ever will cast.

The bigger the peace vote in 1948, the more definitely the world will know that the United States is not behind the bipartisan reactionary war policy which is dividing the world into two armed camps and making inevitable the day when American soldiers will be lying in their Arctic suits in the Russian snow.

There is no real fight between a Truman and a Republican. Both stand for a policy which opens the door to war in our life time and makes war certain for our children.

Let us stop saying, "I don't like it but I am going to vote for the lesser of two evils."

Rather than accept either evil, come out boldly, stand upright like men and say so loudly all the world can hear—

"We are voting peace and security for ourselves and our children's children. We are fighting for old-fashioned Americanism at the polls in 1948. We are fighting for freedom of speech and freedom of assembly. We are fighting to end racial discrimination. We are fighting for lower prices. We are fighting for free labor unions, for jobs, and for homes in which we can decently live."

Fight Conscription

One of the first items on the agenda of the new Congress is universal military training. I say the first political objective of progressives is the defeat of this bill which would deliver our 18-year-olds over to the Army and cost the nation two billion dollars a year.

The American people read of the fantastic appropriations that are being made for military adventure in Greece, Turkey, China—and billions for armaments here at home. Slowly it dawns on us that these newspaper headlines have stepped into our every-day lives at the grocery store when we pay \$1 for butter, 95 cents for eggs, and 90 cents for meat.

We suddenly realize that we can't have all the people of the world getting ready for the next war without paying for it in our daily lives with less food, clothing and housing.

War preparations create record profits for big business but only false prosperity for the people—their purchasing power shrinks as prices rise, their needs go unfilled, and they are burdened with new debts.

The Cost of Profits

Yes, corporate profits are over three times what they were in 1939, but every

family is paying for our war policy at the grocery store.

Two years ago I denounced those who were talking up World War III as criminals. Of course, the bulk of our people are not criminals, but it is possible for a little handful of war mongers to stampede them.

The rich monopolists have always been more ready to sacrifice their sons than their money, but now they have reached the point where they are willing to sacrifice both for the sake of world control.

It Doesn't Make Sense

It just doesn't make sense. The time has come for a new party to fight these war-makers. We say that peace is mandatory and that it can be had if we only want it.

Universal military training is the first decisive step on the road toward fascism. We shall fight it to the limit and all Congressmen who vote for it.

A new party must stand for a positive peace program of abundance and security, not scarcity and war. We can prevent depression and war if we only organize for peace in the same comprehensive way we organize for war.

I personally was for the humanitarian aspects of the Marshall plan long before it was announced. Because I saw the post-war need of helping human beings, I was accused of wanting a quart of milk for every Hottentot.

I pushed for help for Greece against the opposition of the Administration eight months before the Truman doctrine was announced. But I have fought and shall continue to fight programs which give guns to people when they want plows.

Dividing Europe

I fight the Truman doctrine and the Marshall plan as applied because they divide Europe into two warring camps. Those whom we buy politically with our food will soon desert us. They will pay us in the base coin of temporary gratitude and then turn to hate us because our policies are destroying their freedom.

We are restoring western Europe and Germany through United States agencies rather than United Nations agencies because we want to hem Russia in.

We are acting in the same way as France and England after the last war and the end result will be the same—confusion, depression and war.

It just doesn't need to happen. The cost of organizing for peace, prosperity and progress is infinitely less than organizing for war.

We who believe this will be called "Russian tools" and "Communists." Let the fear mongers not distort and becloud the issues by name calling.

We are not for Russia and we are not for communism, but we recognize Hitlerite methods when we see them in our own land and we denounce the men who engage in such name calling as enemies of the human race who would rather have World War III than put forth a genuine effort to bring about a peaceful settlement of differences.

Real Understanding

One thing I want to make clear to both Russia and the United States—peace requires real understanding between our peoples. Russia has as much to gain from peace as the United States, and just as we here fight against the spreaders of hate and falsehood against Russia, the Russian leaders can make a great contribution by restraining those extremists who try to widen the gap between our two great countries.

I insist that the United States will not be fully secure until there is real peace between this country and Russia and until there is an international police force stronger than the military establishment of any nation, including Russia and the United States.

I am utterly against any kind of imperialism or expansionism, whether sponsored by Britain, Russia, or the United States, and I call on Russia as well as the United States to look at all our differences objectively and free from that prejudice which the hate mongers have engendered on both sides.

What the world needs is a United Nations disarmament conference to rid humanity for all time of the threat not only of atomic bombs but also of all other methods of mass destruction.

"I Shall Run"

It happens that all of my mother's and three-fourths of my father's ancestors came to this country before the American Revolution. I love the Americanism I was taught to respect in the public schools of Iowa half a century ago.

That Americanism was betrayed after World War I by forces which found their origin in monopoly capitalism, yellow journalism and racial bigotry. Today there is a greater menace than ever before—a menace more serious than has ever confronted the human race.

That menace can be met and overcome only by a new political alignment in America which requires the organization of a new political party.

To that end I announce tonight that I shall run as an independent candidate for President of the United States in 1948.

With God's Help

Thousands of people all over the United States have asked me to engage in this great fight. The people are on the march. I hope that you who are listening to me tonight will lead the forces of peace, progress and prosperity in your communities and throughout our country. Will you let me know that you have come out fighting against the powers of evil?

We have assembled a Gideon's army—small in number, powerful in conviction, ready in action. We have said with Gideon, "Let those who are fearful and trembling depart." For every fearful one who leaves there will be a thousand to take his place. A just cause is worth a hundred armies.

We face the future unfettered by any principle but the general welfare. We owe no allegiance to any group which does not serve that welfare. By God's grace, the people's peace will usher in the century of the common man.



WALLACE



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DELTA FTA ACTS TO STRENGTHEN UNION

FTA delegates from four states attending the Mississippi Delta Regional Council meeting in Memphis recently, reported signing 43 out of 48 contracts with wage increases from six to 10c an hour and other improved working conditions, since passage of the Taft-Hartley act. "This we were able to do," said Regional Director Larry Larsen, "because we had a strong union."

Reviewing their achievements of the past few years in the region, the union showed a record of wage increases as high as 90%, vacations with pay, paid holidays, call-in pay, seniority provisions, overtime pay, job security and grievance machinery, with more than 71 plants under contract.

Foremost question before the council was the Taft-Hartley law

and how to preserve the union. Full support was given to the FTA position of by-passing the Taft-Hartley NLRB.

Going on record for help to the people of Europe with political strings, the Council opposed the Marshall Plan because it did not meet this standard.

They condemned the un-American Committee's witch-hunt in Hollywood, urged passage of a 75c minimum wage bill, anti-poll tax bill and anti-lynching bill, a real housing and health program, and tax relief for the needy with higher taxes for the greedy.

The Regional Council acted on Organization Director John Tisa's recommendations to set up a regional defense fund and to hold a shop stewards conference in March.

A Modern Fable . . .

The bosses' newspapers are full of fables and fairy stories every day—and the bosses hope you believe 'em. Here's FTA's own effort on that line—and we hope you'll make it come true.

Once upon a time there was a town of people who lived in fear of a large elephant. The elephant ran the town, not only while the people worked but the rest of the time too.

While they slept and ate and played with their children the elephant grew fatter and bigger and poked his trunk into all of their affairs.

The elephant liked to issue orders. He told the people how long they had to work, how much they could eat, what their children could learn at school and he also collected the taxes.

Most people knew about the elephant and some of them wanted to get rid of him. The elephant, however, told them that such thoughts were un-elephant and threatened them with more laws if they kept on thinking un-elephant thoughts, especially in the evening.

So a lot of the people stayed home after their work and if they thought about getting rid of the elephant they were careful not to tell anyone else their thoughts, because the elephant had friends who might repeat them.

One of his special friends was a donkey who tried his best to look and act just like the elephant. This donkey was especially useful in kicking people who expressed thoughts that he and the elephant considered disloyal—to elephants.

Life in the town began to get harder. The people were told to work more and eat less and to keep quiet about it. The elephant passed a law against people getting together and made it a crime to write or say anything against elephants or donkeys.

By and by a few of the people got restless and some of them even said they thought the elephant and the donkey were a nuisance and should be run out of the town. Although some got pretty severely kicked by the donkey for this idea soon caught on.

People began going around to each other's houses and somebody remembered they could all go down to the center of town and have their names written in a book and they could put a piece of paper in a box saying they were sick and tired of elephants and donkeys too, if they wanted to.

After enough people caught on they did this and the elephant and the donkey were forced to leave town.

Life was much better after that and as one of them said: "After all elephants are only elephants and donkeys are even less than that but people are people and should run their own affairs."

LANE URGES HELP FOR FTA PRISONERS IN N. C.

Help for the three FTA members now in North Carolina jails for the "crime" of picketing was urged by Secretary-Treasurer Harold J. Lane in a letter to all locals this week.

"Three FTA members are in prison in North Carolina for the crime of striking for a 65 cent an hour wage in the tobacco leaf-house industry," Lane said.

"They were arrested on the excuse of 'resisting arrest.' Actually, all three were trying to maintain an orderly picketline in spite of police attempts to run material through it in violation of an agreement with the union."

The three are Mrs. Margaret deGraffenreid, mother of four small children and sole support of them and her aged parents; Cal Jones, leafhouse worker and Phil Koritz, FTA organizer.

Help is urgently needed both to aid the victims' families and to persuade North Carolina Governor Gregg Cherry to give them a full pardon, Lane added.

"These FTA members are in jail for the cause of our union and the cause of all workers," he wrote. "They need our support,

both financial and moral. Mrs. deGraffenreid's small children and aged parents face hunger and cold without her support this winter."

Lane outlined a three point campaign for all FTA locals:

"1. Financial relief, to be sent to me at the national office, 20th and Race Sts., Philadelphia 3, Pa.

"2. Letters to Governor Gregg Cherry, State House, Raleigh, N. C., protesting the severity of the sentences and urging immediate commutation and pardon.

"3. Letters of solidarity to Sister deGraffenreid and Brothers Jones and Koritz, addressed c/o Local 22, FTA-CIO, 247 1/2 N. Main St., Winston-Salem, N. C."

The three were finally sentenced to eight months for Mrs. deGraffenreid, 10 months for Jones and one year for Koritz.

These sentences were increased over the original terms by the state Supreme Court after an appeal was denied. The U. S. Supreme Court refused to review the case or listen to an appeal.

Penna. Unites For Wallace

Pennsylvania unions and liberal groups, with FTA up front with the rest, started their drive to build a new people's party to elect Henry Wallace and other progressives to public office in a meeting held in Harrisburg this week.

The meeting, attended by FTA President Donald Henderson and delegate Dorothy Musser from Local 638, brought over 200 men and women from CIO, AFL, Railroad Brotherhoods, and independent unions plus progressive groups such as the NAACP, the American Slav Congress and others to the state capital for a day long "working conference" on independent political action.

Main purpose of the meeting was to plan for a state-wide "grass roots convention" to be held late in February to get Wallace's name and the name of the new party on the ballot for the November election.

Pennsylvania state election laws require petitions for a new party to be signed between March 7 and April 7, this year, by a minimum of around 8,000 people. Goal of the newly formed group, called the Pennsylvania Committee for Wallace, will be "many hundreds of times" that amount as a demonstration of rank and file support for Wallace.

"We in Pennsylvania with our long tradition of fighting for our freedom, must unite our forces and again join the fight for the democratic rights on which our government was founded," the Committee said in announcing its formation.

"Henry Wallace, by his decision to run as an independent candidate for President, gives us an opportunity to work and fight for peace, for security and prosperity."

"Henry Wallace is the only one of the candidates for President who offers the people a choice between peace and war, between prosperity and depression, between expanding our civil liberties or seeing them increasingly restricted."

LOCAL 194, 80 VOTE TO SUPPORT WALLACE

By a unanimous standing vote Local 194, FTA-CIO, endorsed the candidacy of Henry A. Wallace for President of the United States in 1948, at a special General Membership Meeting held Sunday, January 4th.

There are approximately 3500 members in the seven divisions of Local 194: Campbell Soup; Libby, McNeill & Libby; King Cole Candy; Rival Dog Food; Standard Brands; College Inn; and Steffan Vinegar.

(As FTA News went to press, word came that Local 80, Campbell Soup and other firms, in Camden, N. J., voted to support Henry Wallace, and to help build a new people's party in 1948. Local 80 didn't do quite so well as 194. There was one vote against the endorsement at

the crowded membership meeting.)

President John Gallacher's report and ensuing discussion pointed out the difficulties already being thrown in the way of contract renegotiation and wage-reopenings by the Taft-Hartley Act in the various plants.

Officers and members stressed the need for greater fighting unity against Taft-Hartleyism inside the plant, and for greater political action to defeat the Tafts and Hartleys at the polls.

The key to defeating the Taft-Hartley Congressmen in '48 was felt to be enlistment in "Gideon's Army" along with Henry Wallace and the Progressive Party.

The meeting nominated candidates for officers of the Local for 1948. Elections will be held January 14th and 15th.

Lettuce Strike Goes On; Relief \$\$ Still Needed

While the strike against the packingsheds in the Salt River Valley Division of Local 78 goes on, grower-shippers in the Imperial Valley and Salinas-Watsonville-Hollister areas of California and in Yuma, Ariz., have shown some inclination to yield on 78's demands in their areas.

At FTA News press time, the shed owners had agreed to set the retroactive pay raise date back to December 1 and had further agreed that the union should not be held responsible for unauthorized strikes or stoppages.

The gimmick, however, came on the Taft-Hartley act, when the employers asked that the union submit all union shop issues to elections through the National Labor Relations Board.

As the bosses know, elections under the NLRB—assuming the

union consented to go through the Board—take months to hold, during which time the season would be over and the union left holding an empty bag for the next deal.

As a matter of fact, one grower-shipper was frank enough to say to the union that he wouldn't sign one of those blank "purity oaths" himself and didn't blame the union for refusing to swallow the Taft-Hartley bait.

Union wage demands for a 17 1/2 cent raise have not yet been met, but indications at press time were that Taft-Hartley rather than wages was chiefly on the bosses' minds.

Meantime, relief funds are urgently needed by the Phoenix strikers. Funds should be sent to Local 78, SRV Division, 2108 Buckeye Rd., Phoenix, Ariz.



This mother, shown here with three of her four children, is in prison in North Carolina for the "crime" of walking a picketline in protest against 40c an hour wages. She is Mrs. Margaret deGraffenreid, FTA member of Local 22, Winston-Salem. Her children need your help. Have you sent your donation to Local 22, 247 1/2 N. Main St., Winston-Salem, N.C.? Have you written Governor Gregg Cherry, Raleigh, N.C., urging full and immediate pardon for Mrs. deGraffenreid and the other prisoners?

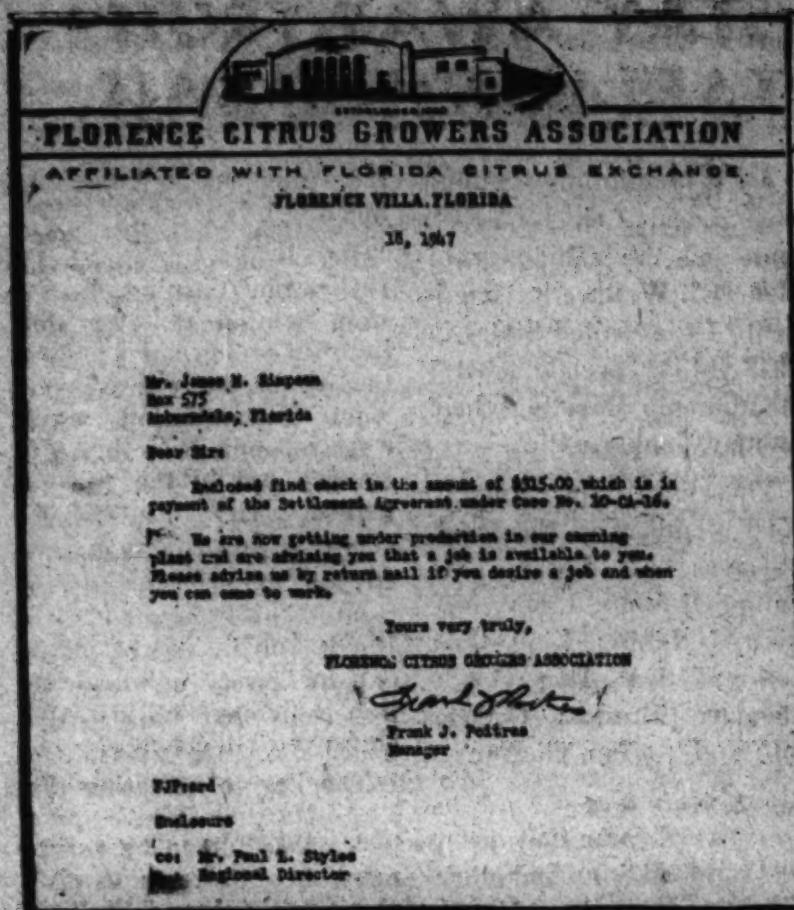
Farmers Hail FTA Support

Warmly responding to FTA pledges of support in the fight to preserve farm cooperatives from big business attempts to tax them out of existence, the Michigan Farmers Union of Benzie County wrote:

"The members deeply appreciated the spirit of friendship and cooperation expressed in your letter and agreed that a closer understanding of each others problems is necessary before the working farmers and the city workers can substantially improve their economic and social position."

The letter from the farm union came in reply to a statement of support from FTA, the CIO Packinghouse Workers, Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, Farm Equipment Workers and Fur and Leather Workers.

"I feel safe in saying that the Farmers Union and its members will support the unions you represent in their effort to develop a better standard of living for their members that they so richly deserve."



FTA CARD PAYS OFF IN FLORIDA AS WORKER GETS JOB, BACK PAY

By Harvey G. Baker

Tom Swann is unhappy. It's not unusual for CIO members to win back pay after being fired unfairly — but, in the Florida citrus industry back pay is new. Tom Swann is president of the Florence Citrus Growers Association and a bigshot in the citrus game, on the side of the bosses.

Last season—March 12, before a government election was held in their juice cannery — plant manager Frank Peitras and superintendent "Pinkey" Swendell laid off some workers after posting a notice that there was a shortage of cans—they were sorry, the notice said.

Now, they're sorrier. No, it isn't that they have had to pay James Simpson and Otto Siemer, Jr. about \$375 back pay — for Florence Citrus has plenty of money. What they hate is to have the world know that FTA-CIO could come back and get some-

thing done for the workers.

And what these bosses are going to hate, even worse, is the fact that the Florence citrus workers continue to work for the FTA, while others are joining. Last season, manager Frank Peitras told FTA the company was going to win the election, and it did. CIO lost, badly.

But now things are changing. \$24 to \$1.90 a day cut in wages is more expensive than five cents a day union dues. The company has cut most of its cannery workers that much, and they're waking up! But that's not all...

Another lesson learned from the firings by Florence Citrus is shown in the union growth in Polk County, Florida. (Polk County is the largest citrus-producing county in the world). Workers in Florence Villa and in other parts of Polk County have grouped themselves into one county-wide local, to be known as "Citrus Industrial Union, Local 116 (FTA-CIO)."

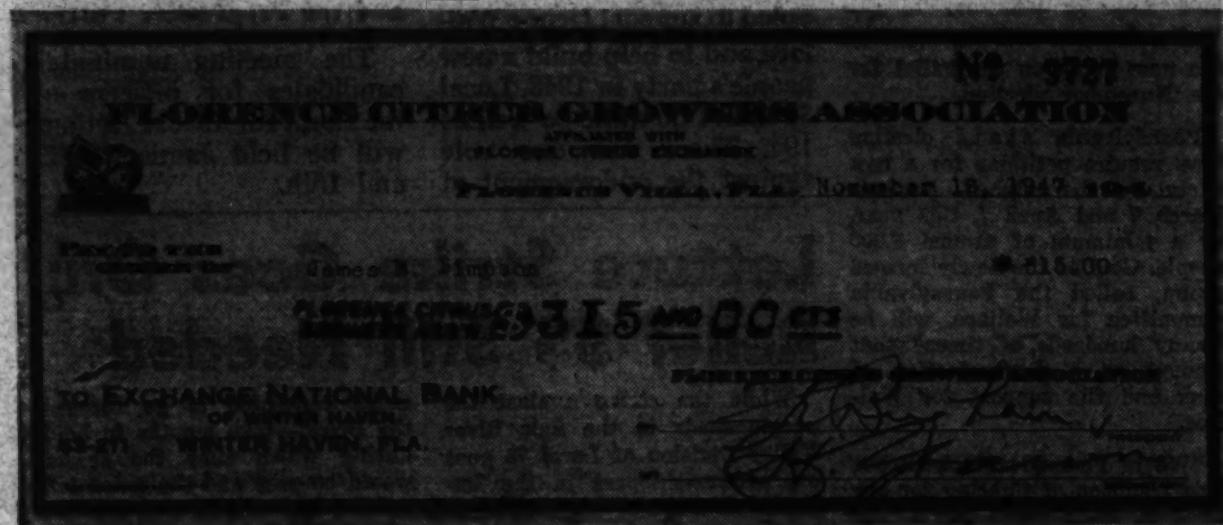
These FTA workers are saying: "... Not one craft or skill... Not one plant... Not one sex... Not one color... Not one grove... But all citrus workers... to-

gether! And... a plan of organizing that can't be beat!"

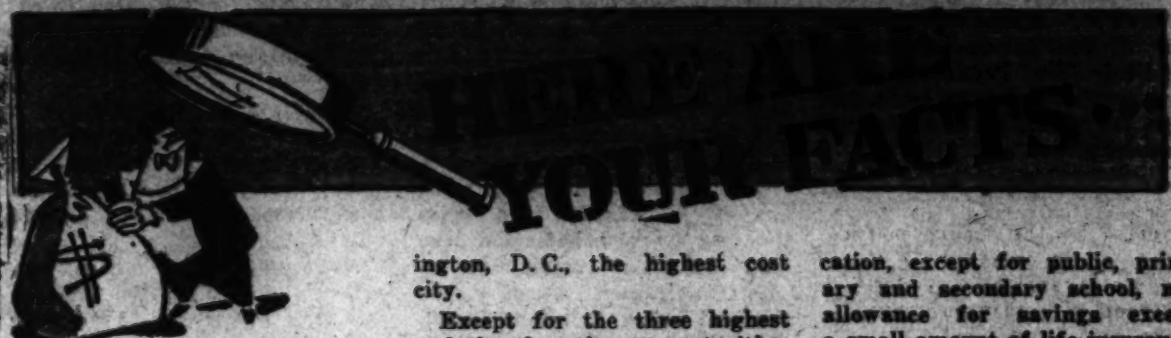
In making this statement they are reminded of the AFL which is again active, freely passing out AFL cards and holding meetings. But workers are finding out that if they want one union in citrus, there's only one choice — FTA-CIO; that with AFL unionism they have to be divided from the very start into AFL craft unions, such as cannery and packing house workers, grove workers and pickers, carpenters, mechanics, electricians, teamsters, etc.

FTA-CIO Local 116 workers are meeting, working and building together for better wages and against wage cuts, which are expected in large doses, soon. And it's no secret—unity is what it is going to take, along with plenty of hard work.

You may not hear much publicity from Local 116 down in Florida, but you can be sure that they're busy. The first issue of Local 116's paper, dated December 1, tells of nine different ways the bosses are cutting wages for pickers, packers and cannery workers in citrus.



Membership in FTA-CIO pays off, as this back pay check for Local 116 member James M. Simpson shows. Brother Simpson was "laid off" as long ago as March 12, 1947, when FTA was conducting an election campaign in the Florence Villa Cannery. Now Brother Simpson has been reinstated (see letter above) and the company has had to shell out the \$375.00 for wages lost during the "layoff."



By Kay Latz
Asst. Research Director

What It Takes

A "modest but adequate American standard of living" would cost the city worker with a wife and two children between \$3,004 and \$3,458 a year at June, 1947, prices. This is the verdict of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics after a two-year study of living costs in 34 cities.

The BLS faced a number of problems in estimating this "City Worker's Family Budget" finally released in December, 1947. Not the least of them was trying to keep up with skyrocketing prices. On the basis of March, 1946, prices the budget for the same cities ranged from \$2,573 to \$2,985.

The cost of the budget had therefore increased around \$500 a year by June, 1947. Moreover the BLS Consumers-Price Index has gone up some 5 percent more since that date. So the budget is already lagging behind prices again.

In March, 1946, the budget called for \$792 to \$850 for food; by June, 1947, this had increased to a range of \$1,000 to \$1,095. The annual budget of \$3,004 to \$3,458 is equal to \$60 to \$69 a week. The \$60 is for New Orleans, lowest of the 34 cities studied and the \$69 is for Wash-

ington, D.C., the highest cost city.

Except for the three highest and the three lowest cost cities, there is actually little variation in what it costs a worker to live in these 34 cities. The annual budget for New York, third highest city, is \$3,347. For Chicago, it is \$3,282, for Memphis \$3,220, for Philadelphia \$3,203, for Houston \$3,020.

The budget itself is more "modest" than adequate is obvious from a look at what it allows:

The standard for items other than food and rent is what BLS calls the "resistance point." This is the point below which the family feels it cannot cut purchases even if it has to go into debt, buy on credit or use any savings it may be lucky enough to have put aside.

The budget for clothing allows the worker an overcoat every seven years, a heavy suit every two years and a light suit every three. His wife gets a coat every four years and four dresses a year.

The food allowance is equally "modest." Food accounts for 35 to 37 percent of the June, 1947, budget as compared to one-third in March, 1946. Despite this high percentage, only about 24 cents per person per meal is provided. This will allow six loaves of bread for the family, 12 quarts of milk, 20 eggs and a pound and a half of butter or margarine a week.

There is no provision for edu-

cation, except for public, primary and secondary school, nor allowance for savings except a small amount of life insurance.

The budget does not consider a telephone necessary but allows for about three nickels phone calls a week. It also provides enough postage for the family to write about one letter a week. The family can buy 167 packs of cigarettes a year as well as 38 cigars and some pipe tobacco. An occasional movie and one daily newspaper are allowed.

Eight to 12 percent of the budget goes for taxes, a small amount of insurance and certain other minor costs.

Such is the budget described by the experts as modest but adequate. Yet present earnings or workers fail to measure up even to this standard. In New York City, for example, average weekly earnings in manufacturing industry in October, 1947, were \$69.48. The BLS budget for that city called for \$64.34, 50 weeks a year, at June, 1947, prices.

Average earnings in Detroit were \$61.09 compared to the budget requirement of \$65.98. In Milwaukee (county) earnings were \$58.53 compared to a requirement of \$66.34. Minneapolis earnings averaged \$60.73 compared to a requirement of \$65.64.

In order to meet the BLS budget, workers in June, 1947, needed average hourly earnings of from \$1.50 in New Orleans to \$1.725 in Washington, D.C. Food

PROFITS UP—pay down

A wage crisis, made worse by a cut in hours which has reduced pay checks from 12 to 24 percent, is giving a big push to the organizing campaign among workers of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. in Winston-Salem, N. C., since FTA Local 22 has asked for an immediate wage increase.

Local 22's contract, which does not expire until next spring, does not have a reopening clause. But the local has addressed an open letter to the company, pointing out that "rising prices and now a reduction in hours have brought real hardship to the families of Reynolds workers," and asking that the company give "earnest consideration to the needs of young employees for more money now."

"If the company disregards... (this) need... the company must assume the responsibility for lowered living standards, for poor diets, skimpy Christmas holidays, and less buying in lo-

cal stores, which will hurt the whole community," the letter pointed out.

Workers in departments of the company which have never been fully organized are showing special interest in this campaign, because of the pinch of living costs. The benefits they may expect to receive by supporting the union were made particularly clear the day after the open letter was issued, when it was reported that employees of other major cigaret companies had been granted cost-of-living raises.

On the same day, local newspapers also carried stories reporting a dividend issue by the Reynolds company, ruling the total dividend for the year to stockholders involved to \$2. This is a 25-cent increase over last year's total dividend, illustrating the company's ability to pay the wage increase asked now. The 25-cent dividend increase represents an extra \$2,500,000 for stockholders.

Urge Support Of Wallace

(Continued from Page 1)

bers to join with other labor and progressive groups in their communities and states in working for his election and in building an independent political party.

This will require hard work in our plants, in our work in our plants, in

and tobacco workers almost without exception fall short of the standard... most of them far short. Moreover, this assumes a full year's work (50 weeks) which is not usual in these highly seasonal industries.

For example, cannery workers in the San Francisco area are probably the highest paid cannery workers in the country. Yet in June, 1947, when the BLS budget for San Francisco called for weekly earnings of \$66.34, cannery workers in the area averaged \$43.76 or less than two-thirds of the budget requirement.

our neighborhoods, precincts and wards to unite every man and woman who wants peace and abundance against war and insecurity. All differences that might weaken us must be buried. No temptation to slacken, to avoid hard work, to indulge in pessimism or despair must be allowed to enter our thoughts.

The creation of a new, people's party is a hard, uphill struggle. The fight was hard in the 1850's and 60's when Lincoln led a new party to victory over the slaveowners. It was hard in the 1890's when Jefferson led the people to political power over the reactionaries of his day. The people will win again, today.

ASK PAY RAISE TO HEAD OFF COLLAPSE

Demands for "a substantial wage increase" were urged on all FTA-CIO locals by the Executive Board meeting this week in Philadelphia.

The union will seek a seasonal guaranteed wage for all workers in seasonal industries and an annual guaranteed wage for year round employees, the resolution said.

Locals were urged to extend "the FTA drive for overtime pay at time and a half" without seasonal exemptions, and to "block the conspiracy in Congress to destroy the Wage Hour act," to raise the minimum to 75 cents an hour and to include agricultural and other workers now exempted from the act.

Excerpts from the resolution follow:

The increase in the cost of living, especially since the end of price control in June, 1946, has more than wiped out all wage gains made since the end of the war by the workers in food, tobacco and fiber processing industries.

Wages in these industries have always been lower than wages in other manufacturing and processing, forcing the workers in them to live on a substandard wage scale compared to other workers.

The average real earnings of food processing workers are now \$29.70 a week in 1939 dollars. These workers have taken a wage cut of 2.1 percent in real earnings since June, 1946.

The average real earnings of tobacco workers are even lower. Real weekly earnings in the cottonseed oil industry are the lowest of all manufacturing at \$22.32 a week in 1939 dollars.

These figures are for a worker with three dependents, and are figured after taxes.

Profits in the food, tobacco and fiber processing industries are higher than ever in history and higher than profits in all manufacturing.

The main danger to our economy is the inner depression which is already in effect through the cut in the workers' living standards. It is possible that we will avoid the "boom and bust" cycles of the past and will continue for a time to have full employment. This however will be the kind of full employment Hitler maintained in prewar Germany with big business continuing to cut the workers' real earnings as they intensify preparations for war.

The workers must help to correct this dangerous unbalance by securing a substantial increase in wages.

We propose the following wage policy program:

1. All locals will seek a substantial wage increase for their members at the earliest opportunity permitted under the terms of their contracts.
2. The FTA drive for overtime pay at time and a half after eight hours in one day and 40 hours in one week without seasonal exemptions should be intensified.
3. Our members should mobilize to block the conspiracy in Congress to destroy the Wage Hour act through increasing exemptions from the time and a half requirement and should intensify the demand for a 75 cents an hour minimum with overtime pay after eight hours a day and 40 hours a week for all occupations, as well as increased coverage.
4. Locals should secure a seasonal guaranteed wage for all workers hired for the season, as exists in several FTA contracts, and an annual guaranteed wage for non-seasonal workers.
5. Agricultural workers should be included in the Wage Hour act and other beneficial laws, including workers on farms employing more than 500 man-days of hired labor per year.
6. All contracts should establish equal pay for equal work for men and women and shall not permit any discrimination in pay based on race, national origin, or religious and political belief.



January 15, 1949

Build FTA, Lane Urges

"With the Taft-Hartley law on the books, there is absolutely no local that can consider itself in a safe position, free from attack. The only reason the bosses are not using all the union-busting features of the Taft-Hartley act is because they are making so much profit that they feel they can afford to wait," Secretary-Treasurer Harold J. Lane said in his report to the FTA Board meeting.

Describing the present situation under the Taft-Hartley law as the "calm before the storm," Lane told the Board meeting that "all local unions must utilize this period to prepare themselves organizationally, politically and financially so that some of the employers may hesitate to take on some of our locals if they know that the local is fully equipped to fight a winning battle."

Lane's proposals to prepare for the coming storm included the organization of an effective shop stewards council in each local capable of enforcing the contract and able to acquaint the workers with the issues confronting the union; an effective PAC committee in each local; and a constant drive to lessen the gap between the dues-paying members and the workers covered by the contract.



But, "we cannot only think in terms of maintaining our existing locals and retaining contracts," he said. "We must think in terms of contract renewals providing substantial wage increases for our members and in terms of mobilizing the maximum strength for the coming political fight . . . to repeal the T-H act and elect candidates pledged to carry on a people's program for peace and prosperity."

Hit Killing Of Greeks

Condemning the Greek royalist government's order applying the death penalty to strikers as the logical result of the Greek government's earlier suppression of labor unions, the FTA Board demanded its repeal and the release of imprisoned Greek workers.

"An injury to the workers of Greece or any other part of the world is a threat to workers in the United States. American workers cannot keep their right to organize and strike for better living standards if their brothers abroad are robbed of that right.

"The same big business forces that oppress the workers of Greece seek to oppress the workers of the United States. The death penalty for strikers is but the logical extension of the Taft-Hartley Act, and there are big business groups in this country who would cheerfully see it adopted here," the resolution said.

The Board called on CIO President Philip Murray to urge the withholding of all economic and military aid to Greece until the worker's right to organize is assured; and urged removal of the U.S. economic and military mission now conducting war against the Greek people.

STAY AWAY FROM TAFT-HARTLEY BAIT

Declaring that compliance with the Taft-Hartley act and the rulings of the National Labor Relations Board "is no protection to the members," the FTA-CIO Executive Board voted to continue FTA's policy of by-passing the NLRB and to "deal directly with employers on all matters of bargaining rights and adjustment of disputes and grievances."

The resolution cited a number of AFL and CIO unions whose leaders have complied with the act and the NLRB rulings and said: "the fact that some unions have complied with the dictatorial rulings of the new NLRB has not saved them or their members from attack. Neither has it served to help in winning elections or in securing collective bargaining recognition."

Excerpts from the resolution follow:

The Taft-Hartley act has now been in force six months. Nothing has happened since that time to disprove the position taken by FTA, the Steelworkers, the UE, the Mineworkers and other unions at the time the act became law.

The Taft-Hartley act and the NLRB have been used as an employer's weapons against our union and other unions that have been forced into relations with it or have voluntarily decided to appeal to the Board.

The fact that some unions have complied with the dictatorial rulings of the new NLRB has not saved them or their members from attack. Neither has it served to help in winning elections or in securing collective bargaining recognition.

For example, in the month of November, 1947, CIO unions complying with the rules of the NLRB engaged in 17 collective bargaining elections and won only 6 while losing 11, or more than two-thirds. In the same month, so-called "independent" unions, many of which are out and out company unions, won 51 of 72 elections in which they took part.

Compliance is no protection from anti-union injunctions. Two AFL unions, the Carpenters and the Longshoremens, are now facing injunctions for strikes called to protect union security and working conditions.

Compliance is no protection from arbitrary firing of union members. The CIO American Newspaper Guild has complied with NLRB rules, yet has been unable to win back the jobs of a number of employees of the Brooklyn, N. Y. Eagle who were arbitrarily fired.

Compliance with the NLRB rules does not protect unions from other forms of harassment under the Taft-Hartley act.

The plain truth is that the Taft-Hartley act can be made to work only by killing off all genuine labor unions and putting company unions in their place.

With these facts in mind, we resolve:

1. To reaffirm the policy of submitting no issues to the National Labor Relations Board and to continue to deal directly or through other agencies with employers on behalf of our members.
2. To strengthen FTA locals to enable our members to meet employer attacks armed with the only real security workers possess, the organized economic and political strength of their union.
3. We will secure legal protection in our contracts against lawsuits and other harassment of our locals and international union through the Taft-Hartley act.
4. To work through independent political action and the creation of a new people's political party for the repeal of the Taft-Hartley act and the defeat of all Congressmen who supported it.
5. To maintain the right of our members and of all workers to freedom of thought, of organization and of political action.



FRED WRIGHT

Who's What In Congress

The U. S. Congress is supposed to represent all the people. The Congressmen say so, anyway—but a look at the figures shows something different.

The overwhelming majority of Congressmen do not come from the common people, the workers and farmers. Figures from the forthcoming book on Congress by Irving Richter shows that nearly 80 percent of the 435 Congressmen and 96 Senators are businessmen, or businessmen's lawyers.

Though they make up more than 76 percent of the country's population, wage earners have only two percent of the Congress. Farmers have only 3.4 percent and professional workers 14 percent.

Eight out of every 10 Congressmen are employers, or employers' agents such as lawyers. Two out of every hundred are wage earners.

That helps to explain why we have the most anti-labor Congress in U. S. history in office right now.



Chairman J. Parnell (Farmer) Thomas and other Congressmen in the anti-labor committee of Congress get campaign money from the same people that back pro-farmer G. L. Smith, according to a statement by Smith on the eve of an "investigation" by the House group.



Congressmen returning to Washington for the regular session are wondering and whispering to each other on the great question—"how many votes will Wallace get?" Seems the Republicans are just as worried as the Democrats about his taking votes away from their side. Which shows that the smart politicians aren't taking their own propaganda about Wallace as a mere flash in the pan too seriously.

As a matter of fact, the Washington Post had an editorial the week of Wallace's speech saying he'd get no votes to speak of from anybody. That same day, five Washington Post columnists devoted their entire columns to Wallace. Each started out by saying nobody was going to vote for him, that he wasn't a threat to the old party system—and spent their 1,000 words each worrying about it.

Congressman Jack Anderson of California (no friend of FTA) asked unanimous consent the other day to include a piece on the Marshall plan in the Congressional Record. Cost to the taxpayer, at \$70 a page, was \$319.50. That amount of money would feed at least 20 European families for a month. He got the unanimous consent, and the taxpayers got the bill.

The high cost of setting is hitting the boys. According to a newspaper story from Wichita, Kansas, the boys and the man who feeds them are up in arms about it. Says Dwight Chapin, who feeds a lot of hogs around Wichita: "I used to be able to raise big hogs, but no more. I've had to drop down to little pigs because the garbage collections have no room." Hogs that collections have dropped off 25 percent since price control was lifted. Mr. Chapin ought to tell his little pigs about the big

ones that are really cleaning up on Wall Street.

U. S. bankers have nearly \$14 billion invested in Europe and other parts of the world. The biggest single European slug of that (over \$1 billion) is in Germany. U. S. Military Government in Germany is run by Gen. Lucius D. Clay, formerly of Dillon, Read and Co. Dillon, Read and Co. floated loans for Germany before World War II. James Forrestal, Secretary of Defense in Truman's cabinet, is ex-president of Dillon, Read and Co. Announced aim of U. S. policy in Germany is to rebuild German industry. You take it from here.

Procter and Gamble, soap manufacturers and owners of the Buckeye Cotton Oil Co. (organized by FTA) increased their profits 236 percent in the first nine months of 1947 over the same period in 1946. Next time little Johnny complains about washing his neck, tell him that HE TOO CAN FIGHT FOR FREE ENTERPRISE!

The U. S. Ambassador to Norway says that the cost of living in that country has gone up only two percent since 1945. He also said (quoted in the New York Times) that "Norway has complete control of her economy." Well, as many a one of us has said before, those crazy foreigners will do anything.

Figures can't lie, but here are figures. The big meat packing and other food companies say they get only a measly one or two cents profit per dollar of sales. U. S. Government reports show that the food trust gets a net (after taxes) return on every dollar of capital of 21 percent—21 cents return per \$1.00 in the business.

As they say in the NAM... Less That Profit!

U. S. Dept of Agriculture
Washington 25 D. C.



FTA's International Executive Board, meeting January 18 in Philadelphia. From left: Henry Wallace for President in 1946 and urged all locals to back him and to join with other unions and liberal groups "in working for his election and in building an independent political party." (See pages 1, 4, 5)

LEFT NEWS

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